



STATE STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF INDIANA

Quick Overview: Minority Teacher/Special Education Services Scholarship

Purpose

The Minority Teacher Scholarship was created by the 1988 Indiana General Assembly to address the critical shortage of Black and Hispanic teachers in Indiana. In 1990 the Indiana General Assembly expanded the program to include the field of Special Education, and in 1991 the fields of Occupational and Physical Therapy were added. The Scholarships are administered by the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana (SSACI) which is responsible for record keeping and for allotting funds to approved colleges and universities.

Eligibility

To be eligible the student must be:

1. A minority student (defined as Black or Hispanic) seeking a teaching certification; or any student (minority and non-minority) seeking Special Education teaching certification, or Occupational or Physical Therapy certification.
2. An Indiana resident and a U.S. citizen.
3. Admitted to an eligible institution as a full time student or already attending as a full time student.
4. Pursuing or intending to pursue a course of study that would enable the student upon graduation to teach in an accredited elementary or secondary school in Indiana or practice as an Occupational or Physical Therapist in Indiana.
5. Complete and file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
6. Not be in default on a state or federally-funded student loan.
7. Meet all minimum criteria established by SSACI.

In addition, students must maintain or have--if they are enrolled in college--, a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 or the equivalent, or meet the minimum GPA requirements established at the college for its school of education, if it is higher.

Students should check with their chosen college to see if it is eligible to participate in the program; not all programs at all colleges are approved. Colleges are responsible for making the actual awards. They may not base the awards solely on merit based factors. Financial need may be considered but it is not a requirement. Preference will be given to minority students and students enrolling in college for the first time. Scholarships are non-transferable between universities. Students must re-apply if they transfer.

Renewal Scholarships

Recipients of the scholarship must:

1. Maintain the cumulative GPA that is required by the college for admission to its School of Education or Occupational or Physical Therapy; or
2. Maintain at least a 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 or the equivalent if there is no minimum GPA at the college.
3. Reapply each year.

Scholarship Value

Minority students demonstrating financial need may receive up to \$4,000 annually; for non-minority students the maximum award is \$1,000. Colleges will determine the actual amount when reviewing a scholar's financial aid package. Colleges may not reduce a scholar's state or federal gift financial aid, if any,



STATE STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF INDIANA

when awarding the scholarship. The scholarship amount will be divided into semester or quarterly disbursements, the same as other financial aid.

The college is expected to bill SSACI for the scholarship amount each and every term. As a rule, scholarship payments to the college cannot be made retroactive once a semester ends; the student should check with the college financial aid office to make sure that funds are being requested in a timely manner.

Conditions

Scholars must agree to:

1. Pursue a program which leads to either a teaching or an Occupational or Physical Therapy Certification.
2. Complete the Teacher or Occupational Therapy or Physical Therapy certification program within six (6) years from the time the first scholarship is received.
3. Teach on a full time basis in an accredited Indiana elementary or secondary school; or
4. Practice in the field of Occupational or Physical Therapy in an accredited school, vocational rehabilitation center, community mental retardation or other developmental disabilities center, for 3 years out of the first 5 years of certification.

Those who fail to fulfill the terms of their scholarship agreements must reimburse the State of Indiana for the full amount of the scholarships plus administrative costs.

Application Procedures

For scholarship consideration, applications should be submitted to the Office of Financial Aid at the college the student plans to attend. Applications should not be submitted to SSACI. The school is required to forward the approved application to SSACI. No awards will be paid unless the approved application is on file with SSACI. Colleges will make the award decisions. Awards will be announced by each college according to their awarding schedule. Applications are available on-line at <http://www.in.gov/ssaci/programs/m-teach.html>.

If you have any questions regarding this program, including detailed program requirements, forward your messages to special@ssaci.state.in.us or contact Yvonne Heflin, Director of Special Programs, at (317) 232-2350.



STATE STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF INDIANA

Quick Overview: Nursing Scholarship Fund Program

Purpose

The Nursing Scholarship Fund was created by the 1990 Indiana General Assembly to encourage and promote qualified individuals to pursue a nursing career in Indiana.

The Nursing Scholarship Fund program is administered by the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana (SSACI) which is responsible for record keeping and for allotting funds to approved colleges and universities.

Eligibility

To be eligible students must:

1. Be admitted to an approved institution of higher learning as a full time (12 hours or more) or part time (6-11 hours) nursing student.
2. Be an Indiana resident and a US citizen.
3. Agree, in writing, to work as a nurse in an Indiana health care setting for at least the first two (2) years following graduation.
4. Demonstrate a financial need for the scholarship.
5. Have a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 or the equivalent, or meet the minimum GPA requirements established for the college's nursing program.
6. Not be in default on a state or federally sponsored student loan.
7. Complete and file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
8. Meet all other minimum criteria established by SSACI.

Check with your chosen college to see if their programs are approved for the Nursing Scholarship Program; not all programs at all colleges are approved. Colleges are responsible for making the actual awards. Scholarships are non-transferable between universities. Students must re-apply if they transfer.

Renewal Scholarships

Scholars must:

1. Maintain the cumulative GPA required by the college for admission to its nursing program, or
2. Maintain a GPA of at least 2.0 on a scale of 4.0 or the equivalent if there is no minimum at the college.
3. Reapply each year

Scholarship Value

The maximum annual scholarship is \$5,000 and can only be applied towards tuition and fees. Colleges will determine the actual award amount when developing a scholar's financial aid package. The amount of the scholarship may be affected by the level of other tuition specific grants and scholarships aid received by an applicant.

The college is expected to bill SSACI for the scholarship amount each and every term. As a rule, scholarship payments to the college cannot be made retroactive once a semester ends; the student should check with the college financial aid office to make sure that funds are being requested in a timely manner.



STATE STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF INDIANA

Conditions

Scholars must agree to:

1. Work as a nurse in an Indiana health care setting for at least the first two (2) years following graduation
2. Complete the nursing program within six (6) years from the time the first scholarship is received

Those who fail to fulfill the terms of their scholarship agreement may be required to reimburse the State of Indiana for the full amount of the scholarships plus administrative costs.

Application Procedures

For scholarship consideration, applications should be submitted to the Office of Financial Aid at the college the student plans to attend. Applications should not be submitted to SSACI. The school is required to forward the approved application to SSACI. No awards will be paid unless the approved application is on file with SSACI. Colleges will make the award decisions. Awards will be announced by each college according to their awarding schedule. Applications are available on-line at <http://www.in.gov/ssaci/programs/nur.html>.

If you have any questions regarding this program, including detailed program requirements, forward your messages to special@ssaci.state.in.us or contact Yvonne Heflin, Director of Special Programs, at (317) 232-2350.